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IP address: 66.238.184.34

The Commentors Name:

---> Mr. Scott Turner

The Commentors Address:

---> 6129 Edgewood Circle

---> Las Vegas, Nevada 89107

Email Information:

---> sincitynv@yahoo.com

---> Add commentor to the mailing list : no

Contact Information:

---> fax number :

---> phone number :

---> organization :

---> position :

Comment Text :

1[---> The plan to store spent nuclear waste at Yucca Mountain is fatally flawed and should be abandoned. There are literally dozens of extremely dangerous possibilities that have been either discounted, dismissed, or simply ignored. Here are just a few:

First and foremost, the materials proposed to be stored there will be highly toxic and poisonous for well over 10,000 years, longer than human "civilization" has existed. To believe that anything can be safely stored intact for such a long time is irrational. It is impossible to predict what changes could occur over such a long time span.

Creating the false impression that safe storage is possible will encourage the poliferation of nuclear energy generation, increasing the demand for storage of spent fuels. This will result in the facility reaching and then exceeding its storage capacity far before present projections estimate.

The "repository" is located in an area prone to earthquakes and other potentially damaging geologic activity. This was proven when, at the beginning of construction, the area was hit by a substantial earthquake, with a 6.0 magnitude if I remember correctly.

Over the years, waste will inevitably seep into the groundwater aquafir and poison a source of water critical to all life, human and otherwise, in this area of the nation. In time the contamination could spread to the Colorado

River, spreading the poison to everything living downstream.

The repository will become a prime target for terrorists, state enemies, and other persons seeking to strike a blow against America. It is unfair that the remainder of the country free themselves from the dangers they have created by operating nuclear power plants in their own backyards by shipping their waste to Nevada.

The movement of nuclear waste is an exceptionally dangerous proposition. Human error, mechanical failure, terrorist attacks, and acts of nature all pose significant dangers to intransit shipments. Without a doubt, accidents will occur and the consequences will be horrific.

The process of selecting Yucca Mountain has been politicized and unscientific. Contrary opinion and research determinations have been discouraged, disparaged, and destroyed. It was a forgone conclusion that the site would be suitable, far before any corroborating evidence was gathered. This corrupt process cannot be trusted.

I believe that construction and operation of the Yucca Mountain Nuclear Waste Repository is, in effect, a death sentence for Las Vegas, Nevada. I estimate that its life will be in the range of 50 to 100 years. Either a major failure will occur or unbiased scientific study will prove that it cannot serve the purpose for which it was designed.

I urge all influential parties to abandon this proposal and work to stop spent nuclear from being stored at Yucca Mountain. J

Scott Turner
Las Vegas, NV
